

shadow new complications, new political convulsions and, perhaps in the end, an entirely new peace.

The momentous decision to-day is regarded in diplomatic circles here tonight as by no means reopening the war. A precedent is found in the Frankfurt occupation by the French, the Germans being expected to submit now just as they did then and without regarding the allied advance as a cause for breaking off relations. Moreover, allied experts intend to keep in touch with the Germans if the present Fehrenbach Government remains in power in Berlin, merely seeking time to work out new propositions. These will be contingent, however, on the German people not being aroused to a state of defiance by the allied move.

The Italians appear not to regard the negotiations which have been going on here as ended, one report being that some of the German delegates would remain here, but this the Germans later denied, saying they were leaving to-morrow. The Italians reluctantly supported the decisions to-day, their experts apparently feeling that the move by the Allies was not justified before May 1. They will take no part in punitive measures, and even some persons here doubt if Italy will make any attempt to apply the second sanction.

To-night the German delegates are blaming the French for the breaking down of the midnight proposals last night, while the French are blaming the Germans, saying they held out in their demand that Germany must retain Silesia. Had the Germans accepted the proposal, Premier Briand would have had a hard time, as the sum of the thirty years' annuities is much less than that decided on in Paris.

Refusal Relieves French.

The German refusal to accept these terms greatly relieved the French, but the British confidently expected the Germans would accept them. Premier Lloyd George feeling he had saved the situation when he got Premier Briand to consent to them.

The break came this afternoon because the Germans simply stood by their refusal to accept now any scheme which fixed the German annuities for more than the next five years, or, in other words, that fixed a total such as the Allies demanded. If another week were given them, Dr. Simons said, they might do so, but this the Allies were not willing to grant. To the last to-day the Germans were willing to agree to the first five years' annuities and the equivalent for additional reparations to the value of 12 per cent. of the German exports, but they refused to waive their demand for an international loan or the return of Silesia to Germany.

The allied proposition to which Premier Lloyd George got the French to agree at midnight last night, was rejected by the Germans this morning, because, like the Paris agreement between the Allies, it fixed the German annuity payments to cover thirty years and left Silesia out of consideration.

The whole German argument stressed again to-day by Dr. Simons was that nobody could tell conditions five years hence, and it would be for experts to decide at the end of that period regarding Germany's future payments and her total debt. Beyond this Dr. Simons held it was impossible for the Germans to promise now with any hope of fulfillment.

Simons Firm to the Last.

"I am unable," he said, "to see how this can be considered a willful violation of the treaty, and if the Allies enforce their sanctions in the face of this offer they will put themselves in contradiction to all the principles of right and equity."

This summed up the German position

against which the conference, on which so many hopes had been based, finally crashed, leaving the Allies still, on the surface, united in their determination to forcefully apply the treaty, and the Germans in an attitude of "do your worst."

Throughout all the talk by the Germans to-day there was not a threat of armed resistance, and few persons here expected it.

To-night the German delegation is packing up preparing to leave for Berlin at 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon. The French delegates will remain here to-morrow for a final conference with the Turks. Premier Briand returning to Paris on Wednesday confident he will now win the enthusiastic approval of the French Chamber of Deputies in connection with his conduct here.

This was a day of tense and dramatic developments, unequalled even during the original peace conference, although, knowing that the proposals last evening, it was hoped even by Premier Lloyd George that at the last minute Dr. Simons might give in.

Before their meeting with the German envoys the Allies met and decided to stand firm on the demand for the total amount of reparations decided on in Paris. Premier Briand refusing to budge from this. There was a brief interval between this allied meeting and the reassembling of the conference to hear the Germans. They came in solemnly, as before, this time being accompanied by Gen. von Seeckt, commanding the German armed forces—in full uniform—a whisper, it seemed, of the German that was prepared to hear the Allies' military commands.

Simons Makes Last Plea.

Immediately Dr. Simons began his speech, which he prepared last night, and in which, almost at the beginning, he expressed Germany's inability to accept the Paris reparations terms. Then he pleaded that Germany be given time. His whole speech was intended as a reply to Premier Lloyd George, and Dr. Simons delivered it feelingly, his voice rising and falling with his emotion.

Germany, he declared, did not want to escape her obligations and was ready to carry out the treaty if she could, but he cautioned the Allies against "attempts to press out of Germany more payments than she can give."

Then, with rising emphasis, he protested against the sanctions as being entirely contrary to the Treaty of Versailles, occupation only being justifiable if Germany failed in her reparations duties by deliberate default, while the sanction compelling the purchasers of German goods to pay 50 per cent. of the value of those goods to the exchequers of their own countries was a violation of the British and Belgian agreements to waive their rights to seize German goods, agreements which were made some months ago. Likewise he declared that a customs barrier in the Rhineland was only authorized by the peace treaty as a protection of the economic interests of the Rhineland inhabitants. It was here that he officially advised the Allies that Germany would appeal to the League of Nations.

When Dr. Simons' long legalistic argument was finished Premier Lloyd George said, with evidence of great disappointment, that the Allies would give the German statement careful consideration.

"I am afraid, however, I must tell Dr. Simons there is no doubt regarding the answer the Allies will be forced to give," Premier Lloyd George said.

Dramatic Scene Enacted.

Even when the morning conference adjourned and the Germans walked out of it solemnly, there was still a feeling in allied circles of a last minute submission. This kept alive the tension during the afternoon. But on the reassembling of the delegates, just as dusk was gathering, the denouement came swiftly. The most dramatic moment came, perhaps, following Premier Lloyd George's inclusive summing up of the Allies' final determination to stand firm, his final words being leveled at the Germans, sitting quietly before him, like the crackle of machine guns:

"In the interest of the Allies," he said, "in the interest of Germany, in the interest of the world, we must have peace. We must have a definite settlement, an immediate settlement, and regretfully we have come to the conclusion that the sanctions must be put into operation immediately."

Upon the pale face of Dr. Simons all eyes were fixed while the German Foreign Minister arose.

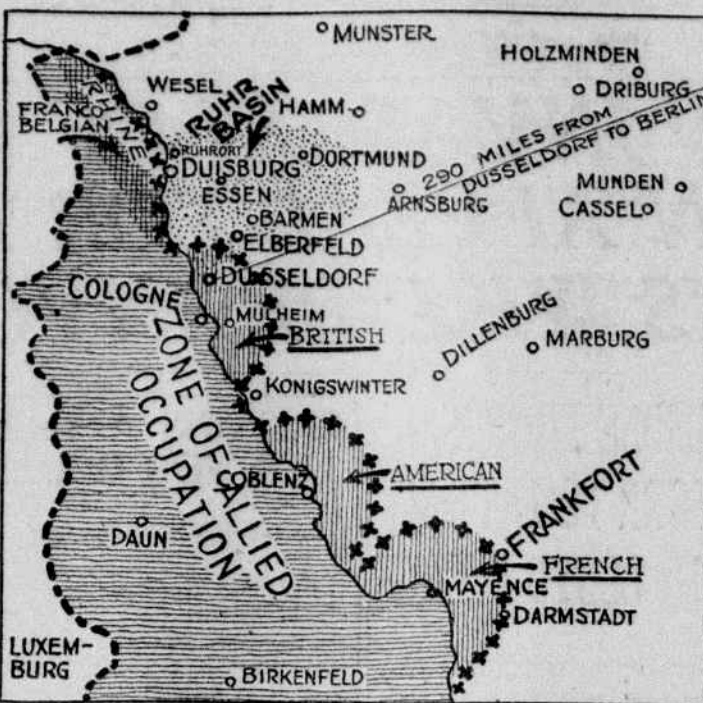
"May I ask permission to retire with the members of my delegation for a short deliberation?" he asked.

"How long a time do you want?" Premier Lloyd George asked him.

"A quarter of an hour," Dr. Simons replied quietly.

An officer led the Germans into a reception room and closed the door behind them, while the Allies took tea. But

Points of Allied March Into Germany



The three cities announced for allied occupation are Düsseldorf, Duisburg and Ruhrort, lying along the Rhine, and commercial ports into which flow the vast traffic of the Ruhr iron region. These cities will be occupied by the Franco-Belgian troops north of Cologne. The American zone is at Coblenz, seventy-five miles further south, and the French zone at Mayence, another seventy-five miles south.

As all three cities are on the Rhine, the proposed occupation does not involve marching inland beyond the Rhine, except in the immediate vicinity of the occupied cities. The French troops are reported to have reached within six miles of Düsseldorf.

Their teacups shook a little as they held them in their hands. When the Germans reentered the room it was seen that the break had come. Dr. Simons' final words being merely a

protest against the application of the sanctions. Not a word was said when he finished speaking, and, bowing stiffly, the German delegation turned and walked out of the room.



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SIMONS VERY BITTER, FRANCE IS BLAMED

Continued from First Page.

then found itself in a dilemma. After the Allies had refused to take into consideration the twenty millions of marks we have already paid, totally new ways had to be sought to settle the reparations. The German delegates then suggested the five-year payment scheme, which, in the short time given for consideration, appeared to be the best way out of the dilemma a plan which, despite what Premier Lloyd George may tell you, the various allied governments had indicated a willingness to agree to. That this plan was not the best way out of the situation was as clear to the Germans as it was to the Allies.

"After it became clear that the Allies would not agree to the plan, the German delegation declared itself prepared to propose a new plan for settling the reparations, and for that purpose asked for a week's extension of time. The president of the conference, in his comprehensive speech to-day, emphasized that an immediate settlement of the reparations problem was absolutely necessary for the peace of entire Europe. I cannot, with the best will in the world, see how it is necessary for the peace of Europe that the Allies, instead of waiting for a week, should now precipitate the greatest possible unrest in the whole world through a further occupation of German territory."

"To my proposal that the sanctions be legally examined in the light of the provisions of the peace treaty the Allies would not agree at all. Nor can it be denied, in my opinion, that the Allies, by their application of the sanctions, have acted contrary to the peace treaty and to the law of nations. The application of the sanctions are all the more deplorable because, for the time, there seemed to be a considerable concord between the president of the conference and the German delegation."

"Germany is absolutely ready to allow any future improvement in her position to be investigated by conferences and to apply appropriate methods of payment to the individual countries concerned. But it seems doubtful to me, in view of the tenacity created by the enforcement of the sanctions, that such conferences could take place in the near future."

GERMANY AWAITS INVASION CALMLY

Duisburg Urges Berlin to Act Patriotically Without Regard to Commerce.

By the Associated Press.
DUISBURG, Germany, March 7.—The coming of an army of occupation across the Belgian guarded bridge from Homburg, on the other side of the Rhine, is being awaited calmly. The Chamber of Commerce has urged the Berlin Government to pay no attention to commercial interests but to act patriotically, although the business leaders here are pessimistic over the effect of the occupation. The combined harbors of Duisburg

and Ruhrort, now one community, make this the largest river port in the world. It handles more than 20,000,000 tons of shipping annually. It is the chief outlet for the Ruhr district and Germany's principal coal center.

The first contingent of French troops assigned to participate in the occupation of Duisburg is reported to have arrived at Benrath, six miles southeast of Duisburg.

By the Associated Press.
DUISBURG, March 7.—Heavy-hearted Duisburg to-night was awaiting the coming of the allied troops across the great Rhine bridge. As in the case of Duisburg the city officials, with the approval of the industrial concerns, have telegraphed the Berlin Government not to let possible damage to the city's commerce weigh against the best interests of Germany.

Business interests here express the fear that the regulations of the occupation forces will cut off the city from the Ruhr district and cripple or ultimately stifle trade.

Prices realized on Swift & Company sales of carcass beef in New York City for week ending Saturday, March 5th, 1921, on ship-ments sold out, ranged from 14.00 cents to 15.00 cents per pound, and averaged 15.50 cents per pound.—A.P.

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